

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01
/100 W

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R 162301Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9227

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG ELTN MEXP MX
SUBJECT: TRANSISTHMIAN PIPELINE

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY MEXICAN CONSULTING FIRM, ALLEGEDLY AT THE BEHEST OF PEMEX DIRECTOR DIAZ SERRANO AND JLP ADVISOR ARTURO RUIZ Y CHAVEZ, CONCERNING ATTITUDE OF USG AND OIL COMPANIES TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF TRANSISTHMIAN PIPELINE FOR TRANS-SHIPMENT OF NORTH SLOPE CRUDE. LARGE DIAMETER LINE WOULD RUN FROM SALINA CRUZ, OAXACA, TO PAJARITOS, VERACRUZ, AND WOULD HAVE HIGH CAPACITY MONOBOUYS AT EITHER END SO THAT LARGE TANKERS COULD BE USED TO TRANSPORT CRUDE.

2. PIPELINE WOULD BE BUILT AND OPERATED BY PEMEX PARALLEL TO EXISTING PRODUCT PIPELINES AND TO UPGRADED TRANS-ISTHMIAN RAILROAD. A TRANSIT FEE WOULD BE CHARGED. PEMEX WOULD SEEK FOREIGN FINANCING EITHER FROM USERS OR FROM OTHER INTERNATIONAL LENDERS.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY OFFERED NO EVIDENCE THAT EITHER PEMEX DIRECTOR OR JLP'S OFFICE IS BEHIND THE APPROACH TO THE
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EMBASSY. IT MAY BE THE CONSULTING FIRM IS HOPING TO OBTAIN AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BY USG, IN ORDER TO STIMULATE INTEREST BY GOM. SECURITY ASPECTS OF PIPELINE UNDER MEXICAN CONTROL AND OWNERSHIP WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSESSED, ALONG WITH OTHER RELATIVE MERITS OF METHODS OF MOVING NORTH SLOPE CRUDE TO

EASTERN U.S... IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ANY EXPRESSION OF
INTEREST BY USG WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A REQUEST FOR U.S.
FINANCING.

4. SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT QUIETLY CONTACT NORTH
SLOPE PRODUCERS AND ASCERTAIN WHETHER FOREGOING PROPOSAL
MERITS FURTHER STUDY.
THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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TAGS: ENRG, ELTN, BEXP, MX, US, PERMEX, (RUIZ Y CHAVEZ, ARTURO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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